

Message Text

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ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 ARA-16 ISO-00 AF-10 EUR-25 EA-11 NEA-10 IO-14

AGR-20 SPC-03 AID-20 NSC-10 RSC-01 CIEP-02 TRSE-00

SS-20 STR-08 OMB-01 CEA-02 CIAE-00 COME-00 FRB-02

INR-10 NSAE-00 XMB-07 OPIC-12 LAB-06 SIL-01 TAR-02

L-03 H-03 PA-04 PRS-01 INRE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00

DRC-01 /237 W

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FM AMEMBASSY LA PAZ

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 1361

C O N F I D E N T I A L LA PAZ 6522

PASS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ETRD BL

SUBJ: BOLIVIA'S 1974 SUGAR QUOTA

1. WE UNDERSTAND THAT THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE IS CONTEMPLATING SOME ACTION LEADING TO A SUSPENSION OR CANCELLATION OF BOLIVIA'S SUGAR QUOTA FOR 1974. THE EMBASSY IS UNAWARE OF PRECISELY WHAT IT IS THAT HAS CAUSED BOLIVIA'S SUGAR QUOTA TO BECOME IMPERILED. NEVERTHELESS, THE EMBASSY URGES STRONGLY THAT NO ACTION BE TAKEN AT THIS TIME WHICH WOULD ADVERSELY AFFECT BOLIVIA'S SUGAR QUOTA INASMUCH AS WE ARE NOW EMBARKED ON VERY DELICATE NEGOTIATIONS REGARDING THE COTTON CON-TRACTS. IT SEEMS EVIDENT THAT AN ANNOUNCEMENT WITHDRAWING BOLIVIA'S SUGAR QUOTA MADE AT A TIME WHEN THESE NEGOTIATIONS ARE UNDERWAY WOULD WITHOUT ANY DOUBT ADVERSELY AFFECT THE OUTCOME OF THESE TALKS. THE GOB WOULD CONCLUDE THAT A CANCELLATION OF THE BOLIVIAN SUGAR QUOTA IS DIRECTLY

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RELATED TO BOLIVIA'S HAVING RENDERED NULL AND VOID 1973

COTTON FUTURES CONTRACTS SIGNED WITH AN AMERICAN BROKER. WHILE CLEARLY NO SUCH LINKAGE HAS BEEN MADE WITHIN THE USG IT HIGHLY DOUBTFUL THAT WE COULD PERSUADE THE GOB THAT WE CONSIDER THE MATTERS TO BE INDEPENDENT OF ONE ANOTHER. IN ANY EVENT, AN ANNOUNCEMENT WHICH ADVERSELY AFFECTS BOLIVIA'S SUGAR QUOTA WOULD BE HIGHLY PREJUDICIAL TO A SUCCESSFUL OUTCOME OF THE COTTON NEGOTIATIONS.

2. THE EMBASSY WOULD MAKE THE ADDITIONAL POINT THAT A SUSPENSION OF BOLIVIA'S SUGAR QUOTA WOULD COME AT A MOST INOPPORTUNE TIME, TO SAY THE LEAST, GIVEN GSA SALES OF TIN FROM THE STOCKPILE. GOB VIEWS ON TIN SALES ARE WELL KNOWN IN WASHINGTON. SUFFICE IT TO SAY, USG ACTION IN YET ANOTHER AREA AFFECTING A VITAL BOLIVIAN EXPORT WOULD ONLY EXACERBATE THE TIN PROBLEM AND COMPLICATE US/BOLIVIA BILATERAL RELATIONS GENERALLY.

3. DEPTTEL 198642 OF OCTOBER 6 ANNOUNCED INTER ALIA A SUGAR QUOTA FOR BOLIVIA OF 7,355 SHORT TONS. WE BELIEVE THAT THE REASONS FOR GRANTING A 1974 SUGAR QUOTA FOR BOLIVIA REMAIN VALID AND THAT THIS DECISION SHOULD STAND.

STEDMAN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: SUGAR, TRADE, COTTON, IMPORT QUOTAS, IMPORT CONTROLS, NEGOTIATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 30 OCT 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973LAPAZ06522
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS STEDMAN
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: LA PAZ
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t1973105/aaaaadef.tel
Line Count: 83
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EB
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 16 JAN 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <16-Jan-2002 by martinjw>; APPROVED <05-Feb-2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: BOLIVIA'S 1974 SUGAR QUOTA
TAGS: ETRD, BL, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005